REMARKS

Claims 1-103 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner alleges that specification does not describe what data or secret is stored in the first location. Applicant respectfully submits that the use of secret information to protect confidential information is well-known. Furthermore, the secret information may take a variety of forms. Support for this position may be found in the references cited by the Examiner. *See, e.g.*, ***Vu***, col. 1, ll. 11-33. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification does enable the use of a secret. Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that it is not necessary to set forth particular examples of secrets to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner also alleges that the specification does not explain what function or uses are performed when retrieving the data from the first location. Applicant respectfully submits that some embodiments of the present invention set forth techniques for accessing data stored in a first location using a secret. The contents and/or the function of the accessed data are not material to the present invention.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification enables the claimed invention and the claims are definite. Applicant requests that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-103 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 1-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by ***Vu,*** et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,557,104). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Vu describes storing a cryptographic key, as well as a cryptographic program and any other data or information that may be required for the cryptographic processing, on a token, such as a magnetic strip, PCMCIA card, floppy disk, CD ROM, or any other similar removable storage device. *See **Vu***, col. 4, ll. 21-36. The cryptographic key, the cryptographic program and other related data stored on the token may be loaded into a System Management RAM (SMRAM) and the SMRAM is then locked to prevent any other processes from accessing the data stored in the SMRAM. *See **Vu***, col. 4, ll. 52-54. Once the cryptographic key has been stored in the SMRAM, the physical token is removed to ensure system integrity. *See **Vu,*** Col. 5, ll. 10-12. A security function may access the cryptographic key and programs stored in the SMRAM to perform security processing. *See **Vu***, col. 5, ll. 35-37.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that ***Vu*** fails to teach or suggest reading a secret from a first location, securing the secret in a secure location different from the first location, and retrieving at least a portion of the data stored in the first location *using the secret*, as set forth in independent claims 1, 51, 55, and 66. Although ***Vu*** describes transferring a cryptographic program (and any other data or information that may be required for the cryptographic processing) from the physical token to the SMRAM, ***Vu*** does not teach that the cryptographic key is used to access the cryptographic program or any other data or information that may be stored on the physical token. To the contrary, the physical token that originally stored the cryptographic key must be removed to ensure system integrity, thereby preventing the system

from accessing any data stored on the physical token after the cryptographic key has been transferred to the SMRAM.

Applicant also submits that ***Vu*** fails to teach or suggest storing a secret within a first location and storing code different from the secret within the first location, where the code is configured to provide access to data stored in the first location when processed in association with the secret, as set forth in independent claims 32, 64, and 97.

Applicant also submits that ***Vu*** fails to teach or suggest a first location configured to store code, a secret, and data different from the secret and different from the code, and a master device operably coupled to the first location, wherein the master device is configured to read the secret from the first location and to store the secret in a secure location different from the first location, and wherein the master device is further configured to access the data stored in the first location using the secret, as set forth in independent claim 39.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not anticipated by ***Vu*** and requests that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-103 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be withdrawn

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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